

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method comprising node selecting method in which a mobile node moving among a plurality of nodes substantially uniformly dispersedly arranged selects a candidate node for next communication, characterized in that the mobile node executes:

a first step of specifying nodes present within a communication zone of a the mobile node which moves among the specified nodes;

a second step of counting the number of overlaps between a communication zone of one of the specified nodes the specified node and communication zones of the other specified nodes for each specified node; and

a third step of selecting, as a the candidate node for communication with the mobile node next, the specified node in which the largest number has been counted, wherein the mobile node performs said specifying, said counting, and said selecting, the specified nodes dispersedly arranged.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method comprising node selecting method in which a mobile node moving among a plurality of nodes substantially uniformly dispersedly arranged selects a candidate node for next communication, characterized in that the mobile node executes:

a first step of specifying a neighbor node present within a communication zone of a the mobile node;

a second step of specifying a neighbor node present within a communication zone of the neighbor node;

a third step of counting a the number of specifications in the first and second steps for each neighbor node; and

a fourth step of selecting, as a the candidate node for communication with the mobile node, the neighbor node in which the number of the specifications in a predetermined order is large, wherein the mobile node moves among the neighbor nodes, the neighbor nodes being dispersedly arranged, wherein the mobile node performs said specifying the neighbor node with the communication zone of the mobile node, said specifying the neighbor node with the communication zone of the neighbor node, said counting, and said selecting.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~node-selecting~~ method according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the selection is not performed; if the specified node in which the largest number has been counted is the same as a node with which the mobile node is currently in communication.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~node-selecting~~ method according to claim 3, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ when there are a plurality of specified nodes in which the largest number has been counted, an arbitrary one node is selected.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~node-selecting~~ method according to claim 1, wherein the mobile node performs said specifying, said counting, and said selecting at predetermined periods ~~characterized in that the mobile node executes the first to third steps at predetermined periods.~~

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~node-selecting~~ method according to claim 2, wherein the mobile node performs said specifying the neighbor node with the communication zone of the mobile node, said specifying the neighbor node with the communication zone of the neighbor node, said counting, and said selecting at predetermined periods ~~characterized in that the mobile node executes the first to fourth steps at predetermined periods.~~

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~node-selecting~~ method according to claim 5, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the predetermined period is changed in accordance with a movement speed of the mobile node.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~node-selecting~~ method according to claim 5, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the predetermined period is changed in accordance with an arrangement density of the specified plurality of nodes.

9. (NEW) The method according to claim 1, wherein the specified nodes are mobile nodes.

10. (NEW) The method according to claim 2, wherein the specified nodes are mobile nodes.

11. (NEW) The method according to claim 1, wherein the method selects a note without using a

received signal strength indicator (RSSI).

12. (NEW) The method according to claim 2, wherein the method selects a node without using a received signal strength indicator (RSSI).

13. (NEW) The method according to claim 1, wherein the specified nodes are uniformly dispersedly arranged.

14. (NEW) The method according to claim 2, wherein the specified nodes are uniformly dispersedly arranged.

15. (NEW) An apparatus comprising:

a wireless transmitter; and

a processor operable to specify nodes present within a communication zone of a mobile node which moves among the specified nodes; count a number of overlaps between a communication zone of one of the specified nodes and communication zones of other specified nodes for each specified node; and select, as a candidate node for communication with the mobile node next, the specified node in which the largest number has been counted, wherein the mobile node performs said specifying, said counting, and said selecting, the specified nodes dispersedly arranged.

16. (NEW) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the apparatus is the mobile node which moves among the specified nodes.

17. (NEW) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the method processor is operable to select the candidate node for communication without using a received signal strength indicator (RSSI).

18. (NEW) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the specified nodes are mobile nodes.